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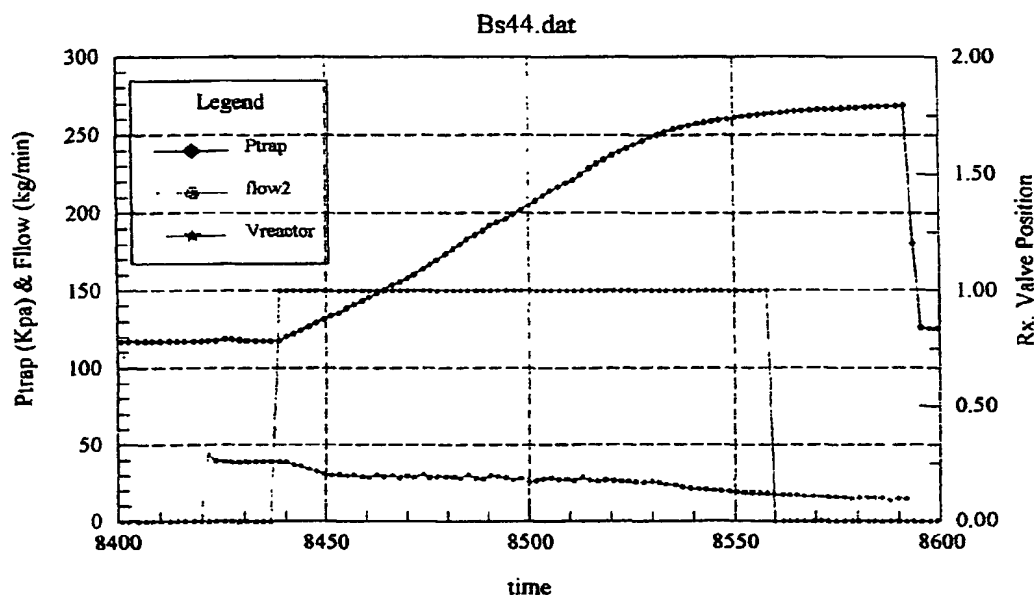
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(54) Title: FILTER CAKE TREATMENT METHOD



(57) Abstract: A method of separating metal particulates from a slurry of liquid metal and metal particulates and salt particulates by filtering the slurry to form a cake of metal and salt particulates with some liquid metal. The cake is broken and liquid metal is removed by vacuum distillation or with a hot inert sweep gas at either position or negative pressure from the broken cake, and thereafter separating the metal and salt particulates. Thereafter, the metal particulates are sized before water washing to prevent unacceptable explosions upon contact with water.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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A	US 5 951 822 A (WILLEMSSEN BRENT ET AL) 14 September 1999 (1999-09-14) abstract ---	1-27
A	US 2001/053343 A1 (KOHLEBERND ET AL) 20 December 2001 (2001-12-20) claim 1 -----	1-27

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